

Message Text

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41

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 IO-10 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04

TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01

/096 W

----- 011842

R 011424Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2181

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

USDEL MTN GENEVA

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 2446

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, SF

SUBJ: SOUTH AFRICAN IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

REF: (A) STATE 144651

(B) PRETORIA 1560

(C) STATE 62253

(D) GENEVA 3523 (JUNE 4, 1974)

1. SAG CLAIMS THAT FIRST EIGHT ITEMS LISTED IN REF (C) AND ITEMS 85.15 AND 85.19 HAVE NOT BEEN THE SUBJECT OF A TARRIF CHANGE AND THAT SAG HAS NO ARTICLE XXVIII OBLIGATION WITH RESPECT TO THEM. REASONING IS THAT OBLIGATION TO ISSUE IMPORT LICENSES AND TO ADD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ITEMS TO FREE LIST COMES INTO PLAY ONLY "UPON THE APPLICATIONS OF

TARRIF CHANGES..." (REF D).

2. SAG HAS PREPARED NOTICE FOR GOVERNMENT GAZETTE THAT WILL ADD ALL ITEMS MENTIONED REF (C) TO FREE LIST EXCEPT THOSE FOR WHICH SAG CONTENTS THERE IS NO OBLIGATION (PARA 1 ABOVE) AND EXCEPT FOLLOWING:

(A) TWIST DRILLS AND POSSIBLY MACHINE REAMERS AND CUTTERS, BOTH SUB-ITEMS OF 82.05.

(B) A FEW TYPES OF MACHINE TOOLS UNDER 84.45.

(C) AGRICULTURAL TRACTORS, 87.01, FOR WHICH ADEQUATE AFTER-SALES SERVICE NOT PROVIDED IN SOUTH AFRICA.

(D) COMPONENTS AND SUBASSEMBLIES FOR MOTOR VEHICLES, 87.02

GAZETTE NOTICE TO BE PUBLISHED "SOON", WHEN DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE SUCCEEDS IN GETTING SIGNATURE OF A PERIPATETIC MINISTER.

3. WE GATHER THAT IT WILL NOT BE EASY TO BUDGE SAG ON THESE FOUR ITEMS, DESPITE THE GATT OBLIGATION. A AND B APPARENTLY HAVE STRONG DOMESTIC INTERESTS BEHIND THEM. C RESULTS FROM A SAD EXPERIENCE WITH TRACTORS FOR WHICH ADEQUATE SERVICE WAS NOT FURNISHED. D IS A RESULT OF SAG POLICY TO PREVENT AUTO COMPAINES FROM CARRYING MORE THAN FOUR MONTH SUPPLY OF IMPORTED PARTS. WHILE WE EXPECT DIFFICULTY ON THESE ITEMS WE ALSO EXPECT SAG TO RECOGNIZE THAT IT HAS AN OBLIGATION, AS WORKING LEVEL HAS ALREADY DONE IN FRIENDLY INFORMAL CONVERSATIONS. SAG MIGHT, HOWEVER, DEFEND TRACTOR ITEM ON GROUNDS THAT PURPOSE IS NOT TO PROTECT LOCAL TRACTOR PRODUCTION BUT TO PROTECT FARMERS FROM UNRELIABLE SELLERS.

4. ASSUMING THAT SAG POSITION IN PARA 1 ABOVE IS ACCEPTED AND THAT GAZETTE NOTICE IS PUBLISHED SOON IS AS REPRESENTED, OUR COMPLAINT IS REDUCED TO ITEMS A THROUGH D ABOVE. WE SUGGEST THAT WE GIVE SAG A REASONABLE TIME TO PUBLISH NOTICE AND, IF NOTICE IS AS REPRESENTED, THAT WE THEN MAKE FORMAL REPRESENTATIONS ON A THROUGH D.

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BOWDLER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRADE LIBERALIZATION, IMPORT CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PRETOR02446
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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Film Number: D750228-0148
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750795/aaaadhcv.tel
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Content Flags:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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06 JUL 2006

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